

# West Hants Middle School



October 8, 2015  
Issue 2

Mrs. Wallace, Principal  
Mr. Miller, Vice Principal  
Mr. States, Vice Principal  
902-757-4100  
[www.whms@avrsb.ca](http://www.whms@avrsb.ca)

Please find lots of helpful  
information on our website at  
[www.whms.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.whms.ednet.ns.ca)

## Upcoming Events

- Oct 2 - Gr 8 Trip (tentative)
- Oct 5 - Band Parent Meeting 6:30pm at AVHS
- Oct 7 - Early Dismissal 12:20pm
- Oct 8 - PASTE Training 3:30-5:30pm; Blue & Silver Day
- Oct 9 - Gr 9 trip (tentative)
- Oct. 12 - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving
- Oct. 13 - Magazine Campaign Begins
- Oct. 15 - Dance 7pm-9pm
- Oct. 19 - Home and School Meeting 7pm Library
- Oct. 21 - Photo Retakes
- Oct. 22 - Band Parent Fundraiser Begins
- Oct. 23 - NO SCHOOL Provincial Conference Day
- Oct. 30 - Magazine Campaign Ends
  
- Nov. 4 - Take Your Kid to Work Day for Grade 9 students only
- Nov. 9 - Band Parent Meeting at 7:00pm WHMS
- Nov. 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 11 - NO SCHOOL-Remembrance
- Nov. 13 - End of Term 1

## Reminder to all parents or visitors

We ask that you please check in at the office when entering the school and not park in the handicapped parking spots unless there is a need.

## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Our breakfast program is a great program used very frequently by our students. We would like to keep the cost low so that the students can benefit greatly from it. Donations of breakfast items such as fruit, whole grain cereal, breakfast bars, juice, yogurt, cheese, paper bowls, plastic spoons, and bread products are greatly appreciated.

## Principal's Message

I can't believe that we have completed a month of school already! September provided us with lots of sunshine and warm weather. Students were busy getting settled into their new classrooms and new course work. Our grade seven students continue to learn about middle school and find their way around their new surroundings. Along with the grade sevens, I have really enjoyed getting to know the students, staff and many parents.

There are many things to be proud about from September:

- The students and staff raised over \$4,900 for cancer research with the Terry Fox Run. Students took part in the run on the trails behind Brooklyn District School.
- Teams for cross country running, golf and soccer were formed and many practices and games have already taken place. WHMS has over 30 sports teams!
- PASTE Mentors have spent time training at Camp Mockingee. This week they will train the almost 200 youth to be leaders in our school.
- Teens for Change have kicked off the year with a food drive. They collected food at our first dance and then organized a classroom challenge.
- Grade seven students have completed their first week IDU and a trip to the beach.
- Grade seven band students have also taken part in the instrument workshop.
- History club and Spanish club have also started.
- Breakfast Program is available every morning in the Learning Centre kitchen.

WHMS has 23 classrooms with 618 students. There are many opportunities for our students to take on leadership roles, take part in athletics and become members of a variety of clubs. Please encourage your child to become involved.

Discussions around our transition plans to a grade 6-8 middle school will start later this month. There will be some parent meetings in the winter and spring once we have some plans in place. As information becomes available, it will be sent home.

## Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox committee would like to thank the students, parents, staff and members of our community who helped make this event such a success. Together we raised \$4959 which is our largest total in years. Way to go West Hants!

*Just like schools and work spaces, school buses are "scent aware" spaces. If you're travelling on a school bus:*

- *Avoid strongly scented personal products (i.e. body sprays, perfumes, scented hair sprays, etc.)*
- *Don't bring scented products on board the school bus.*



## News from Music Department

### Music Department Upcoming Dates

November 9, 2015, 6:30-8:00PM	Band Parent Association meeting at WHMS
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Please return registration package as soon as possible!

For additional news and information, please visit <http://avhs-music.ednet.ns.ca/>

### Family Studies and Child Studies

The West Hants Middle School **Family Studies** programs are looking for donations.

Clothing and Textiles 7 could make use of needles, pins, thread, fabric and other sewing supplies.

Grade 8 Foods and Nutrition students are in need of kitchen equipment such as utensils, measuring devices and small appliances like blenders and electric skillets.

Child Studies 9 students doing the Real Care baby project are in need of infant carriers/car seats (expired carriers are okay for our purpose) and infant clothing. We would also benefit from donations of children's books and toys.

Thank you for supporting our Family Studies program.

### Parent/Student Portal Account

Any parent who has not previously created a portal account can email the Main Office at [whms@avrsb.ca](mailto:whms@avrsb.ca) to request portal information. This information will then be emailed to you.

Any parent who had previously created a parent/student portal account, and is having issues signing in, can use the "Having Trouble Signing In?" link on the portal login page.

### LIBRARY NEWS

Mrs. Lake will be in the library: Tuesday and Thursday - 9:00am - 3:30pm; Friday: 12:30pm - 3:30pm

Students can borrow up to three items for a two week sign out. Please remember to return books on time to avoid having your name added to the homework list.

The library will be open during recess and lunch breaks. Please stop by and find something interesting to read. We also have Chess, Checkers, and Scrabble to help you pass the time. Join us! Everyone welcome!

### Community SHRED - It Event

**October 16th, 2:00 to 4:00pm**

Mobile shredding trucks will be set up in the Central Home Improvements parking lot. Drop off any confidential documents that you want to destroy.

Make a FREE WILL Donation benefiting the Hants County Senior Safety Association and SHRED - IT will securely dispose of small business or personal documents.

Sponsored by: Shred - It, the Hants County Senior Safety Association and Central Home Improvement

### Annapolis Valley Honour Choir and Special Guest Scott Jones Sing for Social Change

On **Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm at the Horton High School Performance Centre**, two very special groups of young people will join forces to bring a message of hope and acceptance to the Valley.

The Annapolis Valley Honour Choir, conducted by Heather Fraser, and VOX, a choir for social change, conducted by Scott Jones, will bring 160 voices together to deliver an inspiring musical program. While the selections are diverse, including songs from gospel, African and pop music, the message is one, creating a better tomorrow through acceptance and love.

Jones and Fraser, brought together through music, are friends whose choirs are about more than just great singing. Jones created VOX as part of his "**Don't BE Afraid**" campaign, an initiative that was launched almost two years ago after Jones was left paralyzed after a brutal attack. Since then, his campaign and his choir have travelled throughout the country speaking to young people to help overcome homophobia and transphobia.

The concert will not only feature numbers from well-known artists like Michael Jackson, Cyndi Lauper and the Muppets, but will also deliver messages from Scott and choir members who will share their own experiences and dreams for a better tomorrow.

Please join AVHC and VOX for what promises to be a truly inspiring evening. All proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Valley Youth Project and the "Don't BE Afraid" Campaign. **Tickets are \$20 adults, and \$5 students and children**, available online through **Ticket Pro (www.ticketpro.ca)**, by phone at **1-888-311-9090**, or at all Ticket Pro locations in Atlantic Canada.

The Valley District Soccer Association is now accepting registrations for all ages----indoor soccer taking place this fall at the indoor facility in Kentville. Information may be found by going to

[www.valleyindoorsoccer.com](http://www.valleyindoorsoccer.com)



FALL programs are about to begin at the Annapolis Valley Chapter of Autism Nova Scotia!

**Pre-School Drop-In** (ages 5 and under), Fridays, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Kingston, starting October 16<sup>th</sup>.  
**School-Age Social Group** (ages 6 to 12), Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Kingston, starting October 13<sup>th</sup>.  
**School-Age Arts & Crafts** (ages 5 to 12), Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Kentville, starting October 1st.  
**Teen Social Group** (ages 13 and up), Mondays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Kingston, starting October 19<sup>th</sup>.  
**Adult Social Group**, Mondays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wolfville, starting Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
**Caregiver Support Group and Coffee House**, first meeting Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. 6:00 pm. to 8:00 p.m., Kingston. For more info, contact Sandy at **902-242-2019** or [annapolisvalley@autismns.ca](mailto:annapolisvalley@autismns.ca)

Our new **Autism Centre** is also open for drop-in during regular office hours. Come and check out our gym, sensory room and resource library!

565 Main Street, Kingston  
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday & Thursday: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Riverview Skating Club

Registration for Winter Session (9 weeks) - Wednesday Oct. 14th 6pm-8pm Brooklyn Elementary School (8008 Highway 14, Brooklyn) and Saturday Oct 17th 11am-1:00pm Windsor Exhibition Arena (239 Wentworth Road). The Riverview Skating Club offers programs for beginners to competitive skaters, including **power skating programs designed specifically for hockey and ringette players!** Sessions begin late October at Windsor Rink.

Visit our website, [www.riverviewskatingclub.weebly.com](http://www.riverviewskatingclub.weebly.com), find us on Facebook or e-mail [brsexton@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:brsexton@ns.sympatico.ca) for more details.

### Looking for a French Tutor?

I am a Second year Acadia University Student. Graduated High School with French Immersion Diploma and DELF Diploma. Completed all levels of education in French Immersion.

One on One Tutor sessions  
 Group setting (Max 4)  
 Flexible Scheduling  
 Experience working with children  
 Residing in the Windsor area  
 Completed First Aid & CPR Level C  
 Criminal Record Check & Vulnerable Sector Check

Call or Email to book a session: **TEL | 902.233.2099** **EMAIL | hannahmtobin@hotmail.com**

### Update from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

The 2015-16 school year marks the start of many new and exciting changes in classrooms across the province as a result of Nova Scotia's Action Plan for Education introduced in January. The Action Plan was based on the feedback of more than 19,000 Nova Scotians, including teachers, students, school support staff, school boards, universities and the business community.

Some highlights this year include:

- \* a streamlined and innovative curriculum with a stronger focus on teaching math and literacy for primary to grade 3 students,
- \* new homework standards to support and enhance student learning at every grade level,
- \* a new school code of conduct that will apply to all schools,
- \* more hands-on learning activities for students to develop their technology skills, including Brilliant Labs and,
- \* more math mentors working with teachers to support higher student achievement
- \* a new career education framework for grades 4-12 students
- \* core French programs that use interactive and conversational teaching methods
- \* a new growth and development guide for families with four-year-olds to encourage early learning

For more details on changes coming in 2015-16 visit [ednet.ns.ca](http://ednet.ns.ca). Follow the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development on twitter @NSEducation.